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PATENT  
DON02 P-820  
Response

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : J. Redman  
Group : 3634  
Applicants : R. Scott Repp and Pamela M. Stallman  
Serial No. : 09/628,455  
Filed : July 31, 2000  
For : METHOD FOR MAKING ARTICULATED WINDOW  
ASSEMBLY FOR VEHICLES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Office Action mailed November 21, 2000, concerning the above application, Applicants in the above-identified application respectfully traverse the rejection on the grounds that the United States Patent 5,853,895 is not available as prior art against the present application and, therefore, cannot serve as a proper basis for rejection of pending claims 2-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

A) The Present Application has an Earlier Priority Date Under  
35 U.S.C. § 120 Than Does U.S. 5,853,895

First, Applicants note that the United States Patent 5,853,895 was invented by Jeffrey A. Lewno, not Repp et al. Moreover, U.S. 5,853,895 is commonly-owned by the assignee of the present application, namely, Donnelly Corporation of Holland, Michigan.

In addition, Applicants point out that U.S. 5,853,895 which issued December 29, 1998, was based on an application Serial No. 924,405, filed August 22, 1997, which claimed priority as a continuation of Serial No. 420,233, filed April 11, 1995, now abandoned. However, the present application, filed July 31, 2000, claims priority through a series of continuations back to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/129,671, filed September 30, 1993, now U.S. Patent Repp et al. 5,551,197. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application has a